To:



From the INTERNATION

BUREAU

NOTICE INFORMING THE APPLICANT OF THE COMMUNICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION TO THE DESIGNATED OFFICES

(PCT Rule 47.1(c), first sentence)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference

International application No.

PCT/EP03/03616

ZS 5699 PCT

International filing date (day/month/year)

Priority date (day/month/year) 30 April 2002 (30.04.02)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Applicant

CARL ZEISS SMT AG et al

08 April 2003 (08.04.03)

1. Notice is hereby given that the International Eureau has communicated, as provided in Article 20, the international application to the following designated Offices on the date indicated above as the date of mailing of this notice;

AU, AZ, BY, CN, CO DZ, HU, JP, KG, KP, KR, MD, MK, MZ, RU, TM, US

In accordance with Rule 47.1(c), third sentence, those Offices will accept the present notice as conclusive evidence that the communication of the international application has duly taken place on the date of mailing indicated above and no copy of the international application is required to be furnished by the applicant to the designated Office(s).

2. The following designated Offices have waived the requirement for such a communication at this time:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, BA, BB, BG, BR, BZ, CA, CR, CU, CZ, DM, EA, EC, EE, EP, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LV, MA, MG, MN, MW, MX, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PH. PL, RO, SC, SD, SG, SK. SL, TJ, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

The communication will be made to those Offices only upon their request. Furthermore, those Offices do not require the applicant to furnish a copy of the international application (Rule 49.1(a-bis)).

- 3. Enclosed with this notice is a copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on 13 November 2003 (13.11.03) under No. 03/093902
- 4. TIME LIMITS for Gling a demand for international preliminary examination and for entry into the national phase

The applicable time limit for entering the national phase will, subject to what is said in the following paragraph, be 30 MONTHS from the priority date, not only in respect of any elected Office if a demand for international preliminary examination is filed before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date, but also in respect of any designated Office, in the absence of filing of such demand, where Article 22(1) as modified with effect from 1 April 2002 applies in respect of that designated Office. For further details, see PCT Gazette No. 44/2001 of 1 November 2001, pages 19926, 19932 and 19934, as well as the PCT Newslener, October and November 2001 and Fehruary 2002 issues.

In practice, time limits other than the 30-month time limit will continue to apply, for various periods of time, in respect of certain designated or elected Offices. For regular updates on the applicable time limits (20, 21, 30 or 31 months, or other time limit), Office by Office, refer to the PCT Gazene, the PCT Newsletter and the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II, National Chapters, all available from WIPO's Internet site, at hup://www.wipo.int/pct/en/index.html.

For filing a demand for international preliminary examination, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume VA. Chapter IX. Only an applicant who is a national or resident of a PCT Contracting State which is bound by Chapter II has the right to file a demand for international preliminary examination (at present, all PCI Contracting States are bound by Chapter II).

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to monitor all these time limits.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Judith Zahra

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Facsimile No.(41-22) 740.14.35 Form PCT/TR/308 (April 2002)





A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
1PC 7 603F7/20 G02826/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system tollowed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G02B G03F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Calegory *	Citation of document, with indication. where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
X	DE 199 03 807 A (ZEISS CARL FA) 11 November 1999 (1999-11-11) cited in the application page 2, line 40 - line 43 page 2, line 58 - line 66 page 3, line 30 - line 33 page 4, line 28 - line 30 page 6, line 58 - line 66	1-27			
X	EP 1 026 547 A (SVG LITHOGRAPHY SYSTEMS INC) 9 August 2000 (2000-08-09) paragraphs '0031!-'0033! abstract	1-27			
P,A	DE 101 20 446 A (ZEISS CARL) 28 November 2002 (2002-11-28) paragraphs '0068!, '0069!; figure 3 -/	1,3,5, 7-14			

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family mampars are listed in annex.				
Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the an which is not considered to be of particular relevance.	T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention				
"E" earlier document but published on or after the informational liling date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone				
which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O' document reterring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"Y" document of panicular relevance; the claimed Invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled				
P document published prior to the International filling date but later than the phonty date defined	in the art. *8° document momber of the same patent family				
Date of the actual completion of the Imemational search	Date of majiring of the international search report				
1 December 2003	10/12/2003				
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Aumonzed officer				
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 cpc nl. Fax. (+31-70) 340-3016	Scheu, M				





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C.(Continu	nion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
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